

Q-1
P
A WOMAN FROM PARIS

PROPERTY OF WILLARD PRICE

A WOMAN FROM PARIS

CAST

MARIE DALTON, that woman from Paris.....	HEAVY LEAD
DOBOOTHY ARNOLD.....	INGENUUE
GEORGE MASON.....	LEAD
BILLY TAYLOR.....	LIGHT COMEDY
ANTONIO FARRAR.....	ITALIAN CHARACTER

PROPS

STILLETO
GUN
NEWSPAPER
SEWING BASKET AND BABY DRESS
PLUMBERS TOOLS IN BAG
CIGARS TWO
LETTER

SETTTING

ACT ONE..... ITALIAN GARDEN OF HOTEL IN NAPPES.

ACT TWO..... TWO YEARS LATER. HOME OF GEORGE MASON . LIVING
ROOM BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED IN AMERICA

ACT THREE..... SAME.

INTERIOR OF ACT TWO AND THREE CENTER DOOR RIGHT AND
LEFT UPPER AND LOWER..

ACT ONE

THE WOMAN FROM PARIS

(At opening of act George Mason discovered on stage reading news paper.)

Billy Taylor

Excuse me sir, but you are reading an American paper in a dago country.

George

I know it.

Billy

That paper is the New York Herald.

George

I'm aware of that.

Billy

Shake hands with a man who made it famous.

George

Billy Taylor!.

Billy

My old pal George Mason. (they shake hands)

George

What in the world are you doing in Italy.

Billy

Special correspondee for the herald I've been stationed in Naples for the last month.

George

We are touring the continent.

Billy

We? Who else is in the party?

George

The wife.

Billy

Who's wife?

George

Mine.

Billy

Married?

George

You don't think we would be touring it if we were not married.

Billy

Who is the designing female, Miss Arnold ?

George

She was Marie Dawson

Billy

Don't know her. Do you love her?

George

She's my wife.

Billy

Thats the reason I asked. Whats the use of loving your own wife when they are so many other wives who need it more. I supposed she is rich or you wouldn't be chasing about this spaghetti stuffed country.

George

She is not rich, but I am.

Billy

What bank did you rob?

George

Som thing happened that made me leave America, and I struck it rich five years.

Billy

I always suspected Miss Arnold was the cause.

George

I love Miss Arnold even if she was rich.

Billy

And you wanted her to share your millions with you.

George

I never even thought of her wealth.

Billy

Tell it to Sweeney!

George

I never had a chance to tell her how much I loved her.

Billy

But the fond parents wouldn't let a poor fellow light on their gateway.

George

Her parents didn't approve of a poor man, and she had a chum whom we sent the messages by, a Miss Dawson.

Billy

Miss Dawson carried Cupid's messages, I suppose/

George

I loved Dorothy I sent her a letter and asked her to be my wife.

Billy

And when she saw you were serious she got cold feet.

George

I don't know about her feet getting cold, but she sent word back that she only cared for me as a friend. And I left there, and struck it rich.

Billy

And then married the friend Miss Arnold.

George

Yes, six months ago in Argentina.

Billy

That tender little message of refusal brings back fond recollection to my own storm beaten and lacerated blood pump.

George

So you had an affair?

Billy

I get four or five every time the paper transfers me to a new town.

George

Well you ought to be immune by this time.

Billy

I'm certainly easy pickings for the fair sex. They take advantage of my childish innocence and pluck me to a fair you well.

George

I think it is about time that you married and settle down.

Billy

No hope, my heart is a desert waste. The springtime of love has turned to the winter blast of vanished hopes. I get pertinitus every time I think of it.

George

When did you meet her, a year ago?

Billy

I was in Paris and met her. She was a dream.

George

A daughter of some rich banker I suppose.

Billy

That's what she said then, but now I think that she was a milliner.

George

Milliner?

Billy

Billy
Yes, for she trimmed in a strickly up to the minute style, and had me hopping on my merry way before I knew what had happened.

George
I didn't think anyone could do it.

Billy
I'm just the kind that is the easiest. The female hypnotized me so completly that I could hear her dad 's millions jingling in my pockets. She had promised to marry me.

George
Yes.

Billy
As the day of our wedding approached she called me up all in a flutter of excitement and said her father had beenc alled out of town, and that her wedding trouseu was at the house C O D two thousand bucks.

George
And you paid it?

Billy
Sure made the check out in her name and took it to her I had about twenty cents left.

George
And then what happened?

Billy
A few days later I learned that she had departed for pars unknown said departure at the request of the police departement.

George
And she was a notorious character?

Billy
My banker's daughter was known to them as Madame Roquet. The head of a clever gang of confidence workers. The fossilized old reprobate who posed as her father was simply one of the gang

George
And you have not seen her since?

Billy
No, and take it from me, I don't want to. But about this wife of you rs, trot her out and let me have a squint at her.

George
Why my wife and I were just getting ready for a sail. Join us?

Billy
Sure thing, got a boat chattered?

George
No.

Billy
Better do it right away, see that handsome looking cut throat out there on the dock.

George
Yes.

Billy
He's a particular friend of mine, tell him that I sent you and he will only charge you twice what it is worth. Othrrwise you will have to pay four or five times what it is worth

George
I'll get my wife and we will join you in a moment.

Billy
While you're doing that I'll get a list of the new arrivals.

Marie
(enters)

Billy
(looks up) My banker's daughter or I'm blind as a bat. Well, Madame Roquet!

Marie

Marie
Were you addressing me?

Billy
Oh now don't try that stranger stunt on yours truly.

Marie
I am Mrs George Mason.

Billy
What!

Marie
Is there anything so alarming about it?

Billy
And you are the wife of my best friend.

Marie
Your best friend, have you seen him?

Billy
Just a moment ago. So the woman who swore she would die seven
deaths for me is Madame Roquet. the woman who was driven from
Paris by the police is married to my best friend.

Marie
Odd turn of events isn't it, but I was not driven from Paris
by the Police.

Billy
NO?

Marie
No my life was in danger. Antonio Farrar had sworn to kill me.

Billy
Was he another disappointed candidate for your hand?

Marie
Yes, I thought almost of him as I did you.

Billy
Why did you marry George Mason?

Marie
Because I loved him.

Billy
Don't make me laugh, Marie.

Maire
With him I am transplanted into another world.

Billy
Where the pickings are better than they were with me.

Marie
With him I breath new air, have new hopes. and pleasures grown
around me.

Billy
Have you ever told George about your past conquest?

Marie
He has known me a number of years.

Billy
As Miss Dawson only.

Marie
Oh How could I go to him and tell him of my past, oh the shame
of it all.

Billy
I wish you'd thought of that before you separated me from my
two thousand dollars.

Marie
How many arms have been clasped about my waist.

Billy
Search me, I have only two to answer for.

Marie
Oh how many lips have been pressed to mine, how vile I was.

Billy
What do you intend to do in the future?

Marie
And what is your position in the matter?

Billy
Mine?

Marie
Are you going to tell him of my past conquest? Are you going to make me fight for my happiness?

Billy
If I could have warned George before I certainly would have done so but now---

Marie
And you will remain silent.

Billy
Yes, it is better to let him be in blissfully ignorance.

Marie
You're so kind, so generous, how can I ever show my appreciation?

Billy
By just slipping me back my two thousand.

George
(enters) I see you are talking to my wife, I see that you introduced yourself.

Billy
Take it from me I am not long a stranger when they're ladies about.

George
Be careful Billy is quite a flirt so don't start a flirtation.

Marie
George you mustn't talk like that, I wouldn't think of such a thing.

Billy
It's just as natural for a woman to flirt as it is for a fish to swim.

George
Billy was just telling me of a woman that trimmed him out of---

Marie
I'll hear the story later. I'm going into the garden and look at the flowers. (exit)

Billy
I'm thirsty

George
Come on in the house, and have one on me.

Billy
Sure be a good fellow and don't limit me to one. (exit)

Dorothy Arnold and Antonio Farrar
(enter)

Dorothy
Tony, you're the best guide I've had since I've been in Naples.

Tony
Thank you, Mees.

Dorothy
But there is one thing I don't like about you, Tony.

Tony
And what is that?

Dorothy
That is every time you pass a woman on the street, you go up to her and peer into her face. If you don't stop that I shall have to get another guide.

Tony
Mees, I look for a woman, and when I find her, I keel her! She is an American woman who married me and trimmed me out of my money, and ~~when~~ I am going to find her, and when I do---I keel her. And Mees, please don't fire me. I like you so very much

You're so good, so kind. Next time, I be very careful.

~~That's all right, that's all right~~ That will be all for today, Attnio.
thats all right.

George and Billy
(enter from R)

Billy
Miss Arnold!

Billy Taylbr!

Billy
When did you land in this cursed Spagetti country?

Dorothy
A week ago, and I am stopping here.

Billy
Eh, here?

Dorothy
Whats strange about that?

Billy
No---no ---of course not.

~~My~~ Dorothy
(turns and sees George Mason) Mr Mason!

George
Miss Arnold!2

Billy
I just thought of some important business, so excuse me.

George
Don't run away.

Billy
My barometer tells me that there's a storm coming and Billy
is too young and handsome to be mixed up in it.

Dorothy
(looks at clouds) Why the sky is perfectly clear.

Billy
So is my brain, thats why I'm going to take to the tall timbers.
No family quarrell for me, see you later. (exits)

Dorothy
At least George you could be polite enough to say that you are
glad to see me.

George
Why should I be after the way you treated me ?

Dorothy
I treated you? You sent me a letter asking me to marry you
---and I was so happy, and I sat down and wrote you a letter
pouring out my whole hearts happineess, and told you how glad
and happy I would to be your wife.

George
You sent me a letter?

Dorothy
Yes, you didn't recieve it, ~~thats why I sent it~~ I sent it
by Marie.

G
George
Marie! My God!2

Dorothy
Its not too late, we can yet be happy. I love you.

George
Its too late. Y

Dorothy
You mean---you mean there is another?

George
I love you, and I 'll always love, and there will be no other woman
in my life, but it is too late. There is another.

Marie
(enter) George Dear!
Dorothy

Marie!

Marie
Dorothy Arnold!

Dorothy
And she is the other?

Marie
Say George come on into our room, I want to talk to you.

George
We will settle this right now. You lied to me. Her letter---
What did you do with it?

Dorothy
Yes, what did you do with it?

Marie
I destroyed it.

Dorothy
And the love messages I sent?

George
I guess were an invention of her own.

Dorothy
But I thought you were my friend.

Marie
I hated you!

Dorothy
Hated me? Why?

Marie
Because your doll like face attracted the only man I ever loved.
Ever kiss and embrace cut my heart like a knife. I hated you
then, and I hate you now. And if you dare to come between
me and the man I love, I'll fight to hold him as I schemed to win
him.

Dorothy
You have won him from me but his love and his respect belong to
me. (exit)

George
(gives her a look)

Marie
George dear don't look at me that way. Tell me that you don't
love her.

George
But I do love her I told you when I married her, that I would
always love her, and we must part.

Marie
You mean you want to leave me? Why I won't let you go. I love
you.

George
There will never be another day of happiness between us. We must
separate.

Marie
You mean you want to leave me so you can marry her
but I won't let you go, I won't!

George
Yes, but it is best we go our separate ways.

Marie
(put hands on him) Oh but I won't let you go, you're all I've

got. You can do with me as you like, but don't hate me.

George

(throws her) Don't touch me. You---I despise you!2 (exit)

Marie

George! (cry)

Antonio

(enters) (bus) Marie! (bus)

Billy

(enters and shoots) The next time I'll shoot to kill.

CURTAIN

ACT TWO

(Dorothy discovered at rise sewing on baby clothes)

Billy

(off stage) Now keep your shirt on you pie faced flunkie.

Servant

(off stage) But the master said---

Billy

Never mind the master, the master knows me, and I don't need to send him my card. Say I'll have you fired for insulting the world's greatest journalist.

Dorothy

(bus) Well, Billy Taylor!

Billy

Hello, Dorothy.

Dorothy

Where did you come from?

Billy

Just landed from doing an assignment in the Balkan states and I'm chased off in the morning to Mexico.

Dorothy

Billy, you're always on the jump.

Billy

Believe me I've learned some running stunts to since taking up War correspondence.

Dorothy

But doesn't that entail great danger?

Billy

I've just discovered a great system, instead of going to the firing line and having my anatomy perforated, I remain quietly in the rear with a graphic description of the battle submitted to the commanding officer and he arranges his battle accordingly.

Dorothy

I didn't know you could do that?

Billy

I'm wise enough to have the officer's name appear in every other line. (bus) Have a chair, William? Certainly thank you Willie will. Let the sewing society proceed with its business.

Dorothy

George is not here at present.

Billy

I met him on the way he said he had surprise for me.

Dorothy

Didn't he tell you what it is?

Billy

(bus) Say that looks like a baby's dress;

Dorothy

you are a wonderful guesser.

Billy

Is it yours?

Dorothy

The---the ---what? The dress?

Billy

No what goes inside of it.

Dorothy

Yes its mine all mine.

Billy

Whats its gender?

Dorothy

Can't you tell?

Billy

No they all look alike to me

Dorothy
 Its a boy!
 Billy
 Bully for you.
 Dorothy
 Yes its a little darling and he's a year old today.
 Billy
 Trot the little devil out and let me get a squint at him.
 Dorothy
 (bus) There he is. See him.
 Billy
 Is that little bundle of ruffles and lace and a human infant?
 Dorothy
 Yes, thats Master Geroge William Mason.
 Billy
 Where did he get the William?
 Dorothy
 Billy, after you.
 Billy
 Me? Hay Bill!
 Dorothy
 Oh!
 Billy
 Whats the matter?
 Dorothy
 You'll wake him. Its too late now but don't do that agin.
 Billy
 You look as happy as a child with a new toy.
 George
 (enters) Now Billy I see you've found a place;
 Billy
 Without a bit of trouble.
 Dorothy
 Sure good to see you ugly mug againg.
 Billy
 It ought to be I haven't pushed it under your face since Naples.
 George
 Did you show Billy our surprise
 Dorothy
 Yes.
 Billy
 I just got a little squint at him at the door, and it slammed
 shut and I thought she was going to have a fit.
 Dorothy
 I showed Billy the baby and he yelled like an Indian.
 George
 Who? The baby?
 Dorothy
 No, Billy.
 George
 When I take him out walking, everybody says he looks like his dad
 Billy
 Good night poor child.
 Dorothy
 You know thats not right. Everytime I have him out, every body
 says he's just the image of me.
 Billy
 Well if he ever associates with a handsome man like me, peoeple
 will say he doesn't belong to either of ymu.
 Dorothy
 We are going to have dinner soon. You will stay, Billie?

Dorothy

George

Dorothy

Billy

George

Dorothy

George

Billy

Digitized by Google

Billy

George

Billy

George

Billy

George

Billy

Geo rge

Billy

George

Billy

George

D417a

George

Billy

Well I---I----well---You see George she was a bankers daughter
who got my two thousand.

George
You mean she was the confidence woman known as Madame Roquet?
Billy

Yes.

George
Did you know it that day in Naples?
Billy

Of course.

George
Why didn't you tell me?
Billy

She was your wife then and I didn't want to cause either of you any unhappiness. On the whole, I think I showed a wonderful degree of intellect in keeping my mouth shut.

Antonio
(enters) Excuse me please Excuse me please Is a thoes were
Mr George Mason lives? Excuse. I am ze plumber. Excuse
me please.

Billy
Sure thing go as far as you like I don't have to pay the bill
George

I will call Mrs Mason. (exit)

Billy
Say O'Rielly

Antonio
What did you call me?

Billy
I mean Cohen, pardon me I should have said Bismark.

Antonio
My name is a Antonio Farrar!

Billy
Farrar. Farrar Oh yes---why I know you.

Antonio
And I ha forgetta you.

Billy
It was in Naples we met.

Antonio
Three year ago. Three year ago.

Billy
How's your mitt? (looks at his wrist) Uh huh so brand I put on you.

~~in the~~
Dorothy and George

(enter)
Antoine
My good friend! My good friend. You see a bad woman made a
bum of me. And I find she come to America I trail her here,
my money run out, I get a job, and I am a plumber.

Billy
Same thing, but my sympathy is with the burglars.

Antonio
Someday when I make de lot a mon then I am going back to my sunny
Italy.

Billy
That's the way with youwops. You come over here and get a whole
lot money and then you beat it back home. (Billy starts to light
cigar)

Dorothy
Don't smoke in the parlor, Billy, please.

Billy
Excuse me I wanted to kill the smell of garlic/

George

Come on out on the veranda and have a real cigar (hand him cigar)

Billy

Yes, it doesn't smell like mine. (they exit)

Antonio

My good friend! My good friend! Loleva you. I love you.

George

(enters) Whats this? Whats this.

Antonio

I mean I love her/ She my good friend, she was kind to me and I'm glad to see her happy.

George

Well thats all very well, you'd better tend to the plumbing. Follow us and we will show you where it is. (Dorothy And George exit)

Antonio

(bus) Yes my good friend, yes my good friend-- --)h hell---they all gone! (exit)

Billy and Marie

(enter)

Billy

Yes, madame. This is the place, this way please.

Marie

Tell Miss Mason I'm here.

Billy

Certainly, kindly be seated.

Marie

I thank you ~~very~~ You are very kind.

Billy

Oh don't mention it. Won't you let me take your veil?

Marie

No thanks.

Billy

Your hat?

Marie

No.

Billy

Have a cigar--- I mean won't you let me do something for you?

Marie

Tell Mrs Mason that I am here and that she has stupid servants.

Billy

Serfant---who---me?

Marie

Well- -aren't you

Billy

Not on your life---I'm the greatest journalist the world has ever known. Thats me and I'm single too.

Marie

How delightful!

Billy

And I'm a model young man/

Marie

Oh a model---is a nimitation of the real thing. I dislike model young men.

Billy

You do?

Marie

I like them sort of ---er devilish like you might say

Billy

Oh you do eh? Well the fact is I was only kidding you I'm a regular devil, I am. Why when I get started, I make the devil look like a Sunday School superintendant. Say but you better take off your veil, Mrs Mason doesn't like them.

Marie

I can't. My complexion is so fair that the slightest wind almost ruins it.

Dorothy

(off stage) All right, George. (George enters)

Billy

Mrs Mason is coming. A lady to see you

Dorothy

Are you the lady who called to apply for the position as nurse?

Marie

I am.

Billy

Say, old man, she's a pippin.

Dorothy

Where's your reference?

Marie

Here's one from my past place.

Billy

Believe me she's a beautiful bear, such kitten like voice and such dainty feet. Hold me George, I'm slipping, I'm dead gone.

~~Marie~~ Dorothy

(reading reference) Miss Fisher, I don't believe I know her.

Marie

She lives on Riverside drive.

Billy

That's all right Dorothy I know Miss Fisher and a reference from her is as good as government bond.

Dorothy

I will pay you twenty five dollars a week.

Marie

That is very satisfactory.

Dorothy

Your duties will be to take care of the baby and take him out each day.

Marie

You mean that you want me to take him out every day?

Dorothy

Yes.

Billy

And I'm thrown in as escort.

Dorothy

And I'll have your trunks sent up at once.

Marie

That is not necessary---my trunks are at the door, Miss Arnold.

Dorothy

You're mistaken, I am Mrs George Mason.

Marie

No you are the one that is mistaken because I am Mrs George Mason.
(takes off veil)

George

Marie!

Billy

That woman from Paris!

Billy
That woman from Paris . I'll be damned!

CURTAIN

You shall not take him from me. I would rather see him dead at my feet than to have him in the hands of such a she devil as you.

Marie

It will at least give him a name.

~~Dorothy~~ Dorothy

George, my baby.

George

Don't worry she will not take him from you.

Dorothy

(exits)

George

You didn't want to do her a good turn by offering to take that baby.

Marie

No I just wanted to take another stab at her heart by taking him away from her.

George

You----you----you Fiend

Marie

Aw George, don't be so cross, if you were just a little bit more affectionate I might get as loving as I used to be.

George

With me---never.

Billy

(enters) Where's Dorothy?

George

She's with the baby.

Billy

I've been over to see her father

George

And what did he say?

Billy

I don't remember, the minute I told him, there was an explosion. The atmosphere was simply was waving arms and black blue haze engulfed us.

Marie

Did the dear old soul swear?

Billy

Yes, the dear old soul swore.

Marie

At me?

Billy

Yes, at you. Tell Dorothy he is coming for her.

George

I will (exits)

Billy

Well you've played the devil here, haven't you?

Marie

I'm only claiming what belongs to me.

Billy

Well I believe it after this when any one tells me you can't kill a cat.

Marie

Not even by drowning.

Billy

I saved your life once.

Marie

Of which I'm grateful.

Billy

I'm not. Its the only thing I ever done that I feel really ashamed of.

Marie

You're not the gallant young Romeo of old.

Billy

No I'm feeling more like an Italian named Antonio Farrar.

Marie

(laughs)

Billy

You don't seem to fear hearing the name.

Marie

Not now. But before I had this trouble with George I would have given anything in the world to have ~~had~~ kept my past from me.

Billy

But now---

Marie

But now he'd be only too glad to hear something horribly vile about me

Billy

Don't you think it would be a good idea for you to take to the tall timber.

Marie

And for what purpose.

Billy

Then George could get a divorce and remarry Dorothy

Marie

That's just what I'm going to prevent. That's just what I'm going to prevent. Don't you think his avowal of love for her in Naples didn't cut my heart like a knife? I've watched and waited for a chance to seek revenge for the stings I received from the man I loved.

Billy

Stikes me that George was the one that got stung.

Marie

He wanted to get a divorce from me then so he could marry her.

Billy

I don't believe he ever thought of such a thing

Marie

Oh yes he did, he told me so himself. And now my revenge is sweet, because she is disgraced forever and I'm happy. yes happy.

Billy

Do you propose sticking here?

Marie

Yes, I intend to enjoy the luxury and wealth that my husband can give me.

Billy

If you live.

Marie

Well what do you mean?

Billy

Antonio Farrar is here.

Marie

Where? Where?

Billy

In this house.

Marie

Why you're only trying to frighten me.

Billy

No I'm giving you warning the danger you are in if you stay here.

Marie

And you suggest what?

Billy

A sudden departure for parts unknown, and if you have no money on hand to buy a ticket it will give me much pleasure to add a small amount to the two thousand you extracted from me some time ago.

Marie

Well you're only trying to frighten me, and I'm not a mere child to be so easily frightened by your little pool of danger. So be on your way, Willie. On your way (laugh and exit)

Billy

The damn cats I'd like to twist her neck.

Dorothy

(enters)

Billy

I'm awfully sorry for you Dorothy and I'd do anything on earth to please you.

Dorothy

Thanks Billy but no one can do anything. (door bell)

Billy

Maybe that's your father.

Dorothy

Stop him. Don't let him come in because if he did it will cause a big scene.

Billy

I'd like to see him do it (exit)

Antonio

(enters) I beg your pardon Mees, but here is a little bill for the plumbing and take my card, and give it to Mr Mason so he can see I do a good job.

Marie

(off stage) Oh George dear, George!

Antonio

That voice! It is she! It is she! (hide behind curtain)

Marie

(enters) GEorge dear, I'm going down town shopping I want to buy some gloves shall I have them charged? Humph! He doesn't seem to pay any attention to me but I'll put a stop to that. George, dear, when I return I want to find your lady friend gone.

Antonio

Marie! Now I keel you. I keel you!

Marie

Oh Antonio have mercy, have mercy.

George, Billy, and Dorothy

(enter)

Antoni

I keel you. I keel you.

George

Leave that woman alone, why do you want to kill her?

Antonio

She bad woman, she my wife.

All

Your wife!

Antonio

Yes, she married me in Italy

George

And you were married to him when you married me?

Marie

Yes.

George
 Then Dorothy you are my lawful wife!
 Billy
 And now your goose is cooked.
 Antonio
 She a bad woman and keel her now.
~~Billy~~ Dorothy
 But think Antonio of the disgrace it would cause us. You say
 that you are my friend.
 Antonio
 Oh I keel her now.
 Billy
 Wait Anotnio wait you've got to give her a chance, got any
 money?
 Marie
 Yes.
 Billy
 Then hop the first boat and never come back.
 Anotnio
 I give you one hour start, and I gotta you
 Billy
 Thats enough.
 Marie
 (exit)
 Antonio
 (looks at her and exits after her)
 George
~~Ma/a/a/a/~~ Dorothy!
 Dorothy
 George! Lets go look at the baby.
 Billy
 Lets all go look at the baby.

CURTAIN

END OF PLAY